

January 9, 1984

LB 403

the case they seize the money back that they paid for the evidence. I think last year they spent only \$4,000 of the ten and the year before was less than \$2,000. So it is a rather simple amendment. It is just a housekeeping-bookkeeping type thing and I would urge your adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the Rupp amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Rupp's amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Did you wish to speak to the bill, Senator Rupp?

SENATOR RUPP: Yes, actually the bill is a little different. Again, it is rather simple. I would hope that you would note in your bill books that neither the State Patrol or both the State Patrol and the Department of Health favored this change. It is simply a transfer of responsibility for drug analysis from the Department of Health to the State Patrol. The State Patrol currently has two chemists on their payroll that do the drug analysis so it was just a clean up bill more or less. I would read I guess to briefly sum up why this was requested. "If the Drug and Narcotic Laboratory was transferred to the State Patrol Criminalistics Laboratory, administration will be greatly simplified, personnel supervision would be much easier, education and responsibilities better delegated and a more cohesive operation overall would result. In essence we would have all of this under one roof, under the State Patrol's roof and it would avoid duplication of effort, avoid hauling evidence all over town and so forth and the problems that are inherent in such an operation." I would urge your passage of the bill, adoption of the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, the other day I was in my office and in walked two state troopers along with Colonel Kohmetscher and because of my reputation around here and the way I